



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY **NEWS RELEASE**

200 E. Washington Street, Suite E224, Indianapolis IN, 46204
Telephone: (317) 327-5090 ~ Fax: (317) 327-3446

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact:

Sgt Brian Dixon

PR Manager

Department of Public Safety

Cell: 317-656-1335

brian.dixon@indy.gov

Department of Public Safety's Division IMPD Announced the 2011 Summer Crime Strategy

*The new Community Affairs Unit has been launched to better serve the Indianapolis
Community*

INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Gregory A. Ballard joined Public Safety Director Frank Straub and Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Chief Paul Ciesielski at the North District this morning to discuss the IMPD's summer crime reduction strategies as well as the significant crime reductions achieved during the first quarter of 2011.

Mayor Ballard discussed the progress of IMPD reform efforts, the importance of real time crime data to identify emerging crime patterns and trends and lauded the efforts of our police officers in reducing crime. "As the IMPD's reform efforts have moved forward, the men and women of the IMPD have been relentless in their pursuit of the individuals whose actions threaten our neighborhoods."

Public Safety Director Straub praised the men and women of the IMPD for their resolve, professionalism, and dedication to reducing crime in the City of Indianapolis. "IMPD is committed to serving and moving the department forward" said Public Safety Director Frank Straub, "the relentless work of our police officers has led to a reduction of 12 % in the first 4th months", he added.

Chief of Police Paul Ciesielski focused on describing the summer strategy "Today, we began our summer 2011 crime fighting initiatives, called Surge 2", said Chief Paul Ciesielski; "we will be relentless and focused on doing everything we can to reduce violent crime in our city", he added.



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The Department also announced today the launching of the Community Affairs unit, the unit is created to establish and maintain community partnerships to address crime and quality of life issues in our Indianapolis neighborhoods. The officers will be cross trained in and tasked with conflict resolution, youth development, intervention and prevention measures, crisis response and problem solving policing. These officers will be uniquely qualified to respond to and develop plans on community issues related to youth, gangs, elderly, new immigrants, homelessness, panhandling and persons in mental health crisis. Community Affairs Officers will be deployed to an area and work with neighborhood, community and city resources to develop a unified response. The Community Affairs Unit will be led by Major Brian Mahone.

The 2007, 2008, and 2009 and 2010 Part 1 crime numbers are attached.

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